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human nature, as well as of form and technique. This book is, therefore, especially interesting because difficulties are not avoided, the analysis is acute and clear, and the subject is presented by one who has a thorough knowledge of his material and has thought it all over for himself. G. T.

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TRAVELS IN THE CONFEDERATION [1783 1784]. From the German of Johann David Schöpf. Translated and edited by Alfred J. Morrison. 2 vols. Philadelphia: J. Campbell. 1911. \$6.00 net.

Johann David Schöpf, who arrived at New York in 1777 as chief surgeon of the Ansbach troops, at the end of the Revolution, made a tour of America, travelling from New York as far west as the upper Ohio, and as far south as Florida and the Bahamas. His observations were published upon his return to Germany. So far as we are aware, no earlier English translation has been printed, though the translator speaks of a reported English version of the second volume preserved in manuscript.

A pedant to his fingertips, a walking encyclopædia of undigested facts, a representative of that peculiarly German type of science which stands for information without illumination, Schöpf is at once repellent and alluring. His purpose, as announced in the preface, is to give "only observations", but his motive, he states, is curiosity, which always implies a redeeming trait somewhere.

His encyclopædic curiosity permits nothing to escape. Geology, medical facts, industries, the description of a worm that preyed upon the organs of a woman, remarks about Benjamin Franklin, the customs of the Pennsylvania Germans, and about a cross-breed fowl, half chicken half duck, with the observation that cocks (presumably American cocks) often exhibit an amorous preference for ducks,—these and many more diverse topics all are grist to his mill.

The American people, as a whole, Schöpf considers a fine race, unusually free from bodily defects or contagious diseases, and possessed of budding genius. Moreover, everything in America is truer to nature than in Europe. The view is very different from that of those European critics who,—history to the

contrary notwithstanding,—think that our immigrant ancestors were the ne'er-do-wells at home. The only serious adverse criticism he makes of the race is the mild one which Americans themselves still express: Luxury prevails without driving out industry or thrift; but it is largely luxury of the body; "Virtuosity, sensibility and other manifestations of soul-luxury are not yet become conspicuous here."

On the whole, the American reader owes an appreciable debt to Dr. Morrison for rescuing Schöpf's book from desuetude. Though not great literature, or even perhaps good literature, it is full of interesting observations and some useful historical facts.

JAMES ROUTH.

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THE ROWLEY POEMS. Reprinted from Tyrwhitt's Third Edition, with an Introduction. By Maurice Evans Hare. Oxford: The Clarendon Press. 1911.

"The only really good edition is Tyrwhitt's," declared Skeat, for his text was based chiefly on the original MSS., and the third edition contained an appendix "tending to prove that the Rowley poems were written not by any ancient author but entirely by Thomas Chatterton" (quoting Tyrwhitt's words) Mr. Hare, having collated his text with the first edition of 1777, has corrected numerous misprints, and in several instances has set Skeat right on words and passages where the earlier editor went astray. Besides an introduction, which contains a sketch of Chatterton's life and a brief critical estimate of his poetry, the present edition includes Tyrwhitt's appendix and glossary, and supplements the glossary by adding numerous words left unexplained by Tyrwhitt.

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THE MODERN READER'S CHAUCER. The Complete Poetical Works of Geoffrey Chaucer. Now first put into Modern English by John S. P. Tatlock and Percy MacKaye. Illustrations by Warwick Goble. New York: The Macmillan Company. \$5.00 net.

To learn to read and enjoy Chaucer in the original is a task not usually accomplished outside of school or college, for the difficulties both of language and of metre are such as to require expert guidance and long and persistent study. Thus a